made for the use of the village community. Such encroachments are very keenly felt in localities where sugarcane cultivation exists on a large scale owing to the difficulties of procuring good fuel for boiling sugarcane juice and of finding sufficient pasture for cattle. It is prayed that an additional allotment of district forests and gomal lands may be made for the use of the raiyats in such localities.

Reply of Government.—Forest Settlement is made by a special Settlement Officer, who is a revenue officer of experience. He fully investigates the needs of the raiyats and provides for all their rights. His orders are subject to appeal to the Deputy Commissioner and the Settlement is not sanctioned by Government without consulting the Revenue Commissioner. If the requirements of the raiyats have not been sufficiently provided for in any case, they have thus ample means of obtaining redress.

SUBJECT NO. 194.

Coupes in malnad district forests.

(1) Messrs. B. Venkatasubbannachar, Agumbe Rama Rao, Thammaiya Bhatta, and Ramanna Gowda, Tirthahalli taluk.
(2) Messrs. Nadig Bhishtappa and Rama Rao, Sorab taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) As the forests in the malnad are not uniformly dense, it causes much inconvenience if the raiyats are required to obtain timber only from coupes. The coupes formed by the Forest Department may therefore be abolished.

(2) The rule requiring the issue of wood only from coupes formed by the Forest Department works as a hardship to the raiyats, as very often the coupes do not contain the required varieties of wood and as the raiyats are put to additional trouble in having to go out of their own village limits for the wood required by them. They may therefore be permitted to remove the wood required by them from the district forests assigned for their villages. The coupes are also in places to which carts cannot be taken easily.

Reply of Government.—Instructions will be issued to provide all reasonable facilities for the raiyats to meet their requirements.

SUBJECT NO. 195.

Occupied *kans* in the malnad not to be included within State Forests.

Messrs. Nadig Bhishtappa, Rama Rao and Nadig Swami Rao, Sorab taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The Forest Department is attempting to include occupied *kans* in Kodakani, Halesorab, Jambehalli, Kastanahalli, Marur, Santemarur, Tavanandi, Tavarehalli, and other villages of the Sorab taluk within the limits of State Forests. As Government have no right to the valuable wood in occupied *kans*, for which the kan-holders pay assessment and which they have enjoyed without interruption for a long time, it is prayed that the Forest Department may be directed not to extend their operations to occupied *kans*. The extent of the Kodakani *kan* is 1,000 acres. The Forest Department felled trees in it and the raiyats objected. There was an assault case. On some of these trees, pepper vines grow

and in cutting them down the wines are destroyed. The Forest Department should be prohibited altogether from cutting trees in *kans*, as their utility is destroyed by the removal of trees.

Reply of Government.—Until the question regarding reservation of occupied *kans* is finally decided, the Forest Department will be directed not to cut any trees in occupied *kans*.

SUBJECT No. 196.

New State Reserves in the malnad.

Messrs. Bhaskar Rao, Shimoga District Board, C. Vamana Rao, Mylarappa and Basappa, Nagar taluk.

Summary of discussion.—As the existing allotment of grazing lands, Soppinabettas, and district forests is insufficient to meet the requirements of the villagers, the proposals for the formation of new State Reserves inclusive of occupied *kans* may be kindly put a stop to in the malnad taluks. The remarks made by Mr. Pilkington in his last year's address to the Dewan during the session of the Assembly apply to all malnad taluks.

Reply of Government.—Occupied *kans* have to be treated as enclosures when they are within the limits of the State Forests. All the rights are recorded by the Settlement Officer and they will be noted in the *Khetvar* also.

SUBJECT No. 197.

Seigniorage on fuel.

Messrs. Venkatasamiah and Doraswamy Iyengar, Chamrajnagar taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The license fee on wood brought from forests has been raised from 4 to 8 annas in the case of a cart and 2 to 4 annas in the case of *vaddarabandi*. Pray that the former rates only may be levied, as fuel is an article of every-day consumption.

Reply of Government.—A report will be called for from the Conservator.

SUBJECT No. 198.

Removal of fuel without payment.

(1) Messrs. C. Vaman Rao, Mylarappa and Basappa, Nagar taluk
(2) Mr. A. Narasimhiengar, Sagar taluk.

Summary of discussion.— (1) The Order of Government conveyed in their Proceedings No. R. 600-603—Ft. 149-11-3, dated 27th July 1912 *re* the removal of dead-wood as fuel from the malnad forests leaves a doubt as to whether green wood removed as fuel is subject to the payment of seigniorage. The conditions of weather in the malnad in the rainy season require each house-holder to store a sufficient quantity of fuel to last for the whole season. As dead-wood is not procurable in sufficiently large quantities, the raiyats are obliged to get green wood from the forests as a matter of necessity. There are no professional fuel contractors in the malnad. It is therefore prayed that permission may be granted for the removal of green wood for fuel for domestic consumption in the malnad, free of seigniorage.

(2) The non-agriculturists in the malnad are at present required to pay a seigniorage of 4 annas per cart-load of fuel. The number of such persons in the malnad,